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Wenther Forecast for Monday. Washington, Dec. 12.-For Oklahoma and Indian Territory-Showers, followed weather, northerly winds, with

morther. For Missouri-Rain or snow: colder in southern portion; northerly winds. For Kansas-Light snow, followed by clearing weather in eastern portions; fair

THE ANNEXATION OF HAWAIL

in western portions; northerly winds,

The report from Washington that a poll of the senate shows more than two-thirds of the senators to be in favor of the an nexation of Hawaii makes it preity certain that the treaty sent to the senate by President McKinley last June will be ratified. Briefly summarized, this treaty provides that the United States is to exercise complete sovereignty over the islands which are to be organized into a territory with a local legislature over which the president is to hold the veto power. United States treaties are to be substituted for Hawalian treaties, Chinese immigration is to be prohibited, and the United States wil assume \$1,000,000 of the public debt. To pre pare a plan of local government, a commission is to be appointed, composed of three Americans and two Hawaiians.

It need not be supposed because of this strong showing, however, that there will be no fight against the ratification of the treaty. A battle royal may be expected when it comes up for consideration in the senate. The oppopents of annexation have already exploited their objections in the public prints and we know about the line of argument they will pursue. Very briefly summarized, these objections may be presented, as follows:

First-That only a small minority of the inhabitants of the islands desire annexation, and, therefore, it would be an outrage to impose a government upon a peo ple without the consent of the governed.

Second-That the Chinese and Japanese coolle laborers must either be allowed the privilege of full citizenship or else be kept in the condition of semi-serfdom now in vogue-either of which is antagonistic to a democratic government.

Third-That local self-government means that an ignorant and irresponsible people will have it in their power to make all sorts of trouble for the United States,

Fourth-That Hawaii cannot be kept from statehood very long, with our political parties forever and bitterly competing for the control of congress.

Fifth-That immense sums of money will be needed to fortify and preserve an American settlement two thousand miles away from the nearest American shore.

Sixth-That it is not the policy of the government to enlarge its territory by an-

Complete answer to these objections has been made by ex-Minister Thurston in a pamphlet recently issued. To the first one he replies that the people of Hawaii have been in favor of annexation to the United States for more than fifty years. During this time there have been four annexation treatics negotiated by the country with the United States, viz., in 1851, 1854, 1893 and 1867. When the latter treaty was, voted upon it passed almost unanimously the Hawalian house of representatives, a majority of whom are native Islanders. This ought to be conclusive as to the wishes of the native people.

To the second objection Minister Thurs ton says that Chinese and Japanese coolies will not be granted the privileges of citizenship any more than they are in the United States proper, and that when the government desires to blot out the condition of semi-serfdom among these people in California and other states it can make its methods apply to Hawaii also.

In answer to the third objection Minister Thurston presents, first, the following table of population:

 Americans
 2,900

 British
 2,200

 German
 1,400

 Norwegian and French
 470
 All other nationalities 1,055

Striking out the Chinese and Japanese, 46,000, who will not become citizens, there is a remainder of 63,625, of whom 21,090 are natives and 32,000 whites or halfbreeds, Thus it will be seen that the natives, even if they were all "ignorant and irresponsible," which they are not, would not have a majority. Minister Thurston called attention to the fact that when annexed Louisiana contained only a few thousand Frenchmen and a host of Indians. The foundation of Louisiana law to-day is the civil law of France, not English common law, as in most of the states. California when annexed had a population of only a few traders, the bulk of the population consisting of Mexicans and Indians, with a sparse sprinkling of Spanish priests. "And what," inquires this champion of annexation, "are we to do with the case of Alass ka, which contained only a handful of white men and something like 250,000 Indians? Was the population there up to the American standard of citizenship which our opponents are demanding of the Ha-

The foundation of Hawaiian law, says Minister Thurston, is the common law of England. United States legal forms and currency already prevall. English is the official language of schools and courts and the coramon language of business. Natives they participate fully and equally with the white people in affairs political, social, religious and constituble. The races frequentbe intermorry and early assimilate. The public schools, speak English and constienough left in Hawaii to have any per- realizations of maternal life, and that she ceptible effect. No territory of the United | was able to witness her son's inauguration.

States was ever annexed with so strong a leaven of Americanism as exists to-day in Hawati."

In answer to the fourth and fifth ob ections, Minister Thurston declares that the questions of statehood and fortifications are ones of internal policy and can only be advanced on the theory that the United States is afraid of herself.

As to the sixth and final objection the minister believes that it has been answered in the eleven annexations, commencing with Louisiana, which the United States has made within the present century. He concludes this division of his reply by calling attention to the fact that in 1867 our government annexed Midway island, which is further away than Hawall, and also Alaska, which is widely separated from the main country.

As a conclusion it may be said that Min ster Thurston has made out such an admirable case that he seems assured of a verdict at the hands of the senate jury.

AN EXPLANATION WHICH DOES NOT

EXPLAIN. After several weeks of pounding by th Kansas press, Webb McNall has at last vouchsafed an explanation of why he has not performed his duty in the matter of the New York Life Insurance Company, which s doing business in that state without icense. This explanation does not sound as if it came from the erstwhile boisterous Kansas commissioner. It is so meek and massertive that one looks in vain for the spirit of the bellicose Jayhawker who was firing great wads of explosive oratory so short a time ago. It more resembles the bleat of a lamb than the roar of a

The explanation appeared in our new

columns. It was to the effect that the

Kansas commissioner had not proceeded against the New York Life because he was awaiting a decision in a similar case against the Mutual Life. The points involved in the Mutual case were the same as those which must be raised in the pros ecution of the New York Life, and therefore the pending case would serve as a precedent. Ordinarily such an explanation would be ample and satisfactory, but coming from Mr. McNall it is not so. The people are not so short of memory that they do not recollect that less than three month ago this same McNall, who appears now to be awaiting with due humility for the voice of the court, was in open defiance of all courts. To-day he is under indictment and awaiting trial for an unlawful interference with the United States courts in the case of the Mutual Life, which he is now so willing to accept as a precedent This whole page might be filled with the letters he has written and the interviews he has furnished the press, in which he denied the right of any court to sit above his insurance decisions. He has boasted frequently and in public places that the decision of a court meant nothing to him. Indeed, he and his Populist associates in the Kansas state government have on sev eral occasions indulged in threatening talk about calling out the militia and resisting by violence the enforcement of any court's decree. In denying a license to the Connecticut Mutual and other companies at this time he is flying directly in the face

down. When Judge Foster and Judge Williams decided some months ago that the Kansas commissioner had no right to exclude the Hillmon insurance companies because they would not submit to what is regarded as blackmail, they established a precedent just as obligatory upon Webb McNall, at least until the decision should have been set aside, as any which can now come from the supreme court of Kansas,

of four court decisions which should serve

as a precedent just as fully as will the

Mutual Life decision when it is handed

Therefore, we say that McNall's explanation of why he pursues one insurance company and permits another to go unmolested along its unlicensed way will be taken with onsiderable skepticism by people who are nformed of all the circumstances. When a United States judge finds evidence that leads him to pronounce from the bench the word "blackmail" in connection with the performances of this Kansas official, there is certainly warrant for the suspicion that it is not so much the desire for precedent that is controlling McNall as-well, something else.

IMPORTANT PENSION RULING.

One of the pension cases recently decided by Webster Davis, assistant secretary of the interior, is of general interest as showing the present attitude of the gov ernment toward applicants for dependent pensions who are not really dependent. The case was that of Louisa Wienerslarge, the widow of an Illinois volunteer veteran She owns fifty-one acres of land twelve miles from Chicago, valued at \$150 an acre and yielding an annual income of \$1.200. The house in which she lives is valued at \$6,000, and the only dependent is : daughter old enough and otherwise qualified to be self-supporting. The claim was rejected on the ground that the widow was not dependent on daily labor for sup

port. The decision is just and commendable It is not the purpose of the government to reward women for having become the wives of old soldiers. If they were really dependent on their husband for subsistence and are left without means of support the government will give them relief; but If they have ample means there is no good reason why the government should burder itself with their maintenance. Many such applicants have succeeded in getting or the pension rolls in the past, but this is rather an argument that the practice should stop than that it should be continued. The fact that the people of the country have undertaken to care for disabled yet. erans and their dependent relatives does not mean that they should be saddled with the maintenance of widows who are well provided with the comforts and luxuries of life.

THE DEATH OF MOTHER WKINLEY

The sorrow at Canton is felt throughout the nation. It is the sorrow for a typical American mother. The people, having learned to know Nancy Allison McKinley through the career of her illustrious son. impressed by the character this acquaintance revealed, softened by the consideraconstitute a uniority of the legislature and tions that venerable years inspire and touched by her fortitude in her hours of affliction, have surrounded the mother of the president with an affectionate regard that betokens the distinctive domesticity of Portuguess have been educated in the our nation. Like the mothers of Grant and Garfield, she lived to see a son made presitute the best labor element on the isl- dent of the United States, While the symands. "As for the Chinese and Japanese. pathy of the entire nation will go out to mostly laborers, they are and will be those who feel her loss most keenly, her allens. Shut off the source of supply and death inspires the happy reflection that her in ten years there will not be Asiatics old age was blessed by one of the richest A contemplation of her life, which was linked with that of the hardy ploneers, is potent reminder of the fundamental lemocracy of the American republic. She by the highest sense and the most faith-

ful practice of rectitude.

MISSOURI AS A FRUIT STATE. Missouri has no organization founded and authorized to collect statistics and make annual reports as to the products, developments and resources of the state. In this respect, as has been frequently noted. she is far behind some of her sister commonwealths, and for this reason her resources are less known than those of other states having fewer legitimate claims upon the attention of the country and the world.

There are, however, several special organizations whose reports are of great value. One of these is the state labor bureau, and another is the State Horticultural Society. The latter has just concluded a meeting at Moberly. At this meeting Secretary Goodman presented a report showing that the apple crop this year in Missouri had a value of \$12,000,000, the peach crop a value of \$5,500,000, and other fruits a value of \$4,000,000, making a grand total of \$19,500,000.

Yet Missouri's resources as a fruitgrow ing state are just fairly opened up. They have not yet been given anything like a thorough test. It is only within the last few years that capital has been attracted in large amounts and fruit culture has been entered upon in certain localities on a large scale. It is easily possible to place and retain Missouri far in the lead of the whole world as an apple and peach producing state, while the small fruits seem to thrive equally as well as the hardy ones.

Yet fruits are only one of the many prod ucts of the state of Missouri. It would be interesting to place alongside this report the year's showing in grain, live stock poultry and creamery products, coal, iron and mineral outputs and manufactures.

SIGN OF KANSAS CITY'S GROWTH.

While the official statement of the post office department shows that the aggregate receipts of fifty of the largest offices in the country for the month of November were nearly II per cent greater than for the same month of last year, the Kansas City office shows a gain of 30 per cent, the largest in crease indicated by the report. The volum of business done in the postoffice depart ment is not an infallible indicator of gener al business conditions, but it is a pretty safe guide after all. It is an indisputable fact that such an increase as has been shown in the Kansas City office can be attributed only to a growth in population and an increased activity in commercial life But this is only one of many signs of prosperity in Kansas City. The activity of this town has attracted general attention and is likely to hold it for a long time to come.

AN ERRONEOUS REPORT.

The Journal is in receipt of a letter from Hon, John D. Milliken, of McPherson Kas., chairman of the National Prison Association, criticising the press report of the recent meeting of the association at Austin, Tex. Mr. Milliken explains that many of the so-called "reforms" reported as indorsed by the association were not indorsed at all, but were merely mentioned as having been suggested by various persons at one time or another. The assertion that they were recommended by the meeting Mr. Milliken regards as "reflection on our common sense," and declares that any one who would recommend such absurdities "would be a fit subject for the lunatic asylum." The Journal had an editorial comment on the report of the meet ing at the time it was published and is glad of the opportunity to set the association right before the public.

Sedalia's "mining exchange" has closed, the Capital says, pending the arrival of a fresh invoice of gold nuggets from Klondike and a new school of suckers.

Brookfield doesn't exactly figure on harging up its municipal stocking, but has about decided to purchase a new \$1,000 wagon for its hose, as a Christmas present.

Mr. Hasgall was one of the rural Missouri owners of the big St. Louis mercantile establishment that made an assignment the other day. Mr. Hasgall may congratulate himself that he has it now.

The Albany Ledger, speaking apparently with the confidence born of experience, lays down the proposition that as a domincering boss Mark Hanna can't even play a good second fiddle to "Governor" Dock-. . .

Freak show managers are engaged in lively competition, the St. Joe papers say, for an opportunity to engage the services of the citizen who voluntarily resigned his position as alderman there some months before the expiration of his term.

Speaking of heavyweights, the family reunion at the home of Mrs. Dail in Lin-neus the other day, on the occasion of her 71st birthday anniversary, brought together her four stalwart sons, whose aggregate weight is just an even 500 pounds.

Not content with the pot of gold it is soon to dig up from the bowels of the earth where the old Indian buried it ever so many years ago, Clearmont covets a share of the Klondike treasures also, and will spend \$650 in sending a representative to Alaska after it in the spring. Judge J. F. Green, of the Jefferson coun-

ty circuit court, is receiving notices from the country press on the theory that he will be a candidate for judge of the su-preme court, and Judge William M. Williams, of Boonville, is the recipient of like mention on the same line of reasoning. Now that Westport has been safely gathered in, Colonel Martin, of the Brookfield Gazette, wants Greater Kansas City, as its next move forward, to reach out after

its suburbs, and thus add 60,000 more population in time for the census man on his next visit. The New York Times, referring to the selection of Right Rev. Ethelbert Talbot. formerly of Fayetta, as bishop of Central Permsylvania, says the Missouri man is highly honored. The Columbia Herald, however, begs leave to differ. "No, init says. "It is Pennsylvania that

goes there." A Linn county editor's idea of luck is exemplified in the experience during the past few years of one of the prominent foreign insurance companies in Palmyra, it having taken out of that town \$9,000 in premiums, while the sum of \$350 represents the sum of the losses it has been called upon

will be highly honored if the Missouri man

to pay there. Apparently the tide of returning prosperity in thrifty Nodaway county has been f such volume as to have swamped litigation. In commenting on the report of he suicide of the woman lawyer in New Zealand, because of a scarcity of cilents, the Maryville Tribune ventures the tion that "if the men lawyers at the Maryville bar were to commit the crime of selfdus of legal talent from Nodaway county would be a sight to behold."

The section is such a first

One of the best known high class magaines in the United States advertises among was of the people, but of a people governed its specially exploited features for 1898 a series of articles by "Dr. T. J. J. See, the celebrated astropomer, on the 'Origin of the Universe,' as shown by investigation of tidal motion. These essays, the first of which attracted great attention, are first literary explanations of the revolutionary discoveries made in this new field of research." A point of particular isterest to Missouri readers in connection herewith is the fact that Dr. See is a Mis souri boy and a graduate of the state uni

> "One would suppose," remarks the stalwart Brookneld Gazette, "that if Mr. Fil ley believes all he has written in regard to the Republican party, and is sincere in his condemnation of it, he would want to get out of it, or that if he is not sincere he ought to at least have the manliness to step down and out of the chairmanship of the state committee; but one who thinks that way utterly fails to understand Mr Party and members of the party amount to but little in his estimation un less they recognize his greatness and bow down to him. He and a few of his followers have long held to the idea that the Republican party of the state of Missouri was got up for, and, if maintained at all, should be maintained solely for the benefit of Mr. Filley."

> Judge Ellison is an inveterate joker, Some months ago, as the Columbia Herald relates, Colonel J. R. Rippey, the bustling secretary of the state board of agriculture, sent out a circular asking for suggestions from farmers as to how to divide a farm-how it should be arranged so as to provide a farmer with the various necessaries of life. He received many replies, among them this from Judge Eilison:

"Take a 240 acre farm and divide it thus "To furnish bread for family, 10 acres, "To furnish clothing for family, 30 acres "To furnish whisky, 200 acres.

"P. S.-In some cases it may be best to give more to the last." Strange to say, Secretary Rippey never published the Ellison letter in any of his excellent bulletins of agricultural informa-

Judge Andrew Ellison will not be a can didate for re-election to the position he now holds. He has served twenty-two years as judge of the Kirksville circuit and says he is going to retire. There is considerable talk about his probable candidacy for supreme judge, but he has written at least one letter in which he has announced his determination not to enter the race. Judge Ellison comes of a family of distinguished lawyers. There are four brothers; James is judge of the City court of appeals; William C. is a resident of Maryville, while George, who is crippled, still lives in Northeast Missouri. Judge Ellison is a born campaigner; though Democrat, he has been elected several times on the Republican ticket. He is great bodied fellow, weighing in the neighborhood of 300 pounds, bluff, good natured and a splendid "mixer." He is worth about \$50,000 and has a farm of 240 acres near Kirksville that is as fine land as any in Missouri.

After having lived a life of great activity, in which, he was a participant in some of the most stirring events in the country's history, H. S. Townsend is living in Maryville, the Tribune says, enjoying a green old age. At 18, fighting Indians in the Black Hawk war; later the friend of Ulysses S. Grant, when the latter was clerking in a leather store in Galena, Ill.; in 1838 the personal friend and supporter of Abraham Lincoln for the United States senate and a member of the legislature who voted for him against Douglass; in 1863 the maker of a motion, as a member of the board of supervisors, which resulted in the presentation of his famous sword to General Grant, who was his fellow citizen of Jo Daviess county; since the war a business man who ias become wealthy, and a citizen who has been of great service to his country, because he has raised a family without a superior in good citizenship; and now at a healthy, strong man whose mind is as clear as it was fifty years ago, and who takes as much interest in business and poliics as he ever did-Mr. Townsend's certainly been a very remarkable life. He is now SI years old, but he is no more feeble than he was thirty years ago. His beard, which is trimmed according to the fashion of the time when he was in his is gray, but his heavy hair is barely sprinkled with silver. He talks as readily and entertainingly as he ever did and re members events in his past life perfectly except that he sometimes forgets This, he says, is his only evidence that age is beginning to tell on him.

Mr. Townsend was 18 years old when he enlisted for the Black Hawk war in 1832. Abraham Lincoln, who was six years his senior, also enlisted about the same time and it was at about this time that Mr. Townsend first heard of him.

Mr. Townsend was an active participant in the famous Lincoln-Douglas campaign for United States senator from Illinois in 1858.

"I had known Lincoln ever since the close of the Black Hawk war. We were soldiers together, and I had heard something of him while we were in the service. Later I became well acquainted with him. I was a delegate from Jo Daviess county in 1858 to the Republican state convention at Springfield, and I was one of the party of friends who went with him in the library of the state house to discuss the 'House divided against itself speech. Lincoln was a great politician. He was a deep man, and of very singular disposition. He always made everything pleasant for those aroun him. Put him in a room full of strangers and he would put them all on easy term

in a few minutes. "I never met him after he was elected president. I did not go to Springfield when he was buried. I was too much broken down with the idea of his being murdered. "My estimate of him? I think he was the greatest man the world ever produced If not the greatest, at least one of the

greatest. Mr. Townsend was a member of the board of supervisors of Jo Daviess county in 1863, when General Grant was made lieutenant-general, and at his suggestion the board passed a resolution to purchase him a sword to cost not less than \$1,560

"The evening after the supervisors passed this resolution," said Mr. Townsend a man named Rogers, who was formerly a wealthy merchant in Galena, but wh was then living in New York city, came to me and said \$1,500 would not buy as good sword as we ought to get. 'If you'll give me the privilege of getting the sword," he said, I will give enough to buy a splendid one. I thought \$1.500 was a pretty good price for a sword, but the board decided to let him buy it, and he did. He had it made its big namesake on the Kansas side, and in Connecticut and paid \$2,700 for it. Rogers Stephen T. Napper, a prominent citizen of Jo Daviess county, and I were appointed a committee to present the sword to Grant I telegraphed him at Washington, where he was then, asking where we should meet him, and he wrote me telling when would be in Nashville, and that it would !

convenient there. "The committee went to Nashville in short time. When we arrived there we went to Grant's headquarters and found him alone without a guard. We had an interview with him there and the next day was named as the time for the formal presentation of the Jo Davless county gift-for he did not know then what it would be. The next day we went to his rooms again, and there is the presence of General Sherman, General Smith, General Rollins, Colonel Rowley and a number of other big military men, I, as spokesman of the committee, presented the sword to him He made a short, simple speech in reply. He did not say much, but it was evident that he was pleased with the appreciation of his own county.

"The sword was an elegant thing. Th scabbard was of pure gold and the names of all the battles of the Mexican war in which he participated were inscribed on it

Grant always were it afterward on state

A Spook and a Bulldog

From the Washington Post. From Shelbyville, Ind., comes the story of a startling materialization of spirits otherwise than those which were banished from the senate restaurant for one brief day. The incident to which we refer occurred in the northern part of the diana county of which Shelbyville has the proud privilege of being the county seat, and it goes to show that, no matter how shrewd one may be in evolving and putting into operation clever schemes there is always danger of an unfortunate hitch in details or a complication which cannot be foreseen or anticipated. family of Mr. Harvey Spurlin had

resided in the northern end of this county

for a number of years, and to them came

many of the blessings of life and few But a few months ago the angel of death knocked at the door and called forth one of the family circle. Soon after the funeral services the people of the neighborhood began to hear strange stories of the appearance of a supernatural thing in the vicinity of the Spurlin homestead. After the period of rumor the members of the Spurlin family readily admitted that the place was what is commonly known as "haunt-ed," and all the ghost experts in the Spurlin neighborhood took an interest in the case. Spurlin's friends and neighbors kept vigil with him, but the watched ghost, like the watched pot, failed to come to time. In fact, the ghost never materialized except on those evenings when Spurlin had neglected to invite his neighbors in to lay for it. It possessed more than the usual amount of ghostly acumen, and by a careful manipulation of its dates managed to avoid the publicity Spurlin's neighbors would give it.

But the ghost whoch haunted the Spurlin premises did not carry on its opera-tions without molestation. Despite the pleadings and protestations of the members of the family, Spurlin determined to lay the spiritual visitor, and night after night he gave the noctural one chase. When "it" put in its appearance and inaugurated its work of producing uncarthly noises, and finally its disappearance, the members of the Spurlin household would eringe with fright and the faithful bulldog would take refuge under the house and mingle his baritone howls with the chaos of which this ghost made a specialty. But not so with Spurlin. On all such ocasions he would shoulder his trusty gun and give chase to the phantom, but always with the same result. After absences lasting from thirty minutes to an hour Spurlin would return with a story of "its" mysterious and theatrical disappearance. In fact, it al-ways disappeared on the regular Indiana

But, as the sentimental song write says, there came a time one day, or, rather, one night, when the Spurlin buildog encouraged by his master's bravery, concluded to cut out his fright and howl and to take a hand in the ghost hunt. This was the inception of the unraveling of the mystery. The very evening the bulldog braced himself for the ordeal some of Spur lin's neighbors were engaged in making an investigation on their own account. The ghost got in on schedule time, carrying the usual complement of unearthly noise, and Spurlin, the ghost hunter, and the buildeg with the newly generated nerve got off in a bunch in pursuit. Spurlin at once grew jealous of the dog and tried to call it off Suffice to say, the dog caught up with the ghost, and, luckily for the latter, Spurlin and his neighbors were soon on hand to pull him off.

The "ghost," according to the divorce petition of Mrs. Henry Spurlin, was no other than Mrs. Alice P. Girard, a buxom widow who lived on an adjoining farm. Mrs. Spurlin names Mrs. Girard as the co-respondent in the case, and, as Mrs. Girard is off taking the Pasteur treatment, her version of the incident cannot be secured. Mr. Henry Spurlin is striving hard to trade his bulldog for a reputation, and the people of the northern end of this particular Indiana county know "heaps" more about ghosts than they formerly did The only moral in this connection is found in the suggestion that it is not always safe to own a bulldog that possesses the faculafforded by its master.

Three Days to Europe.

From the Chicago News. Notwithstanding the constantly decreasing time of a voyage across the Atlantic New Yorkers are not satisfied. The delay of a day or two now in the foreign mails cause more criticism than a week's tardiness would have done a quarter of a century ago. The cable service has done much to bring the continents nearer together as re gards the great events of the day, and this, in turn, with the diminished time of th 'ocean greyhounds," has resulted in creating a demand for still closer connection between the Old World and the New. Partly to meet this demand, but chiefly in the interests of Canadian trade and com merce, the Canadian government has time between England and America. The

planned for a considerable shortening of Dominion government, beginning in 1888 will give an annual subsidy of \$50,000 for ten years and the British government a still further bonus of \$250,000 per year to steamship company which is to send across the Atlantic vessels of the highest standard with a speed guaranty of 500 knots in twenty-four hours, the company to forfeit \$1,000 for every fallure to make a voyage inder the prescribed conditions.

The great Eastern projection of the American continent into the Atlantic is also to be utilized in shortening the voyage thus saving 1,000 miles over the route from New York to Liverpool and easily reducing the time of an ocean voyage to four days Should the eastern coast of Newfoundland eventualy become the point of departure for Europe this will knock off another 500 miles of ocean voyage, making a possibillity of a transatiantic trip of three days from Newfoundland to Cork, lower than which there does not seem to be any proba-

ole prospect of reduction. This proposed reduction of time will probably make the Canadian line immensely popular during the summer season. As a writer in Scribner's Magazine points out in liscussing this proposed route, the journey to Europe will then begin at Boston, thence by Maine Central railroad and Intercolonial railway of Canada to St. John, New Brunswick, and then by fast steamer a distance of 250 miles to Newfoundland; thene icross Newfoundland by rail, 500 miles, to the salling port on the eastern shore of the island. Certainly such a voyage would enable the visitor to see a part of the American continent not otherwise often visited, and by its shorter ocean voyage would greatly lessen the difficulties of trayders of feeble health or who do not enjoy week of mal de mer. The gain in mail facilities would, however, be the important consideration for most people, though the mestion of profits to the steamship comcany would largely depend upon the popmarity of the new route with tourists,

Unconscious Plagiarism. From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat,

The complication of the governors of Missouri and Michigan over their Thanks giving proclamations is inpiring remiiscences of unconscious assimilation and repetition. One of the best is told by Sen tor James K. Jones, of Arkansas, But this is a curious case of innocent plagiarism on ne's self. A very remarkable case it is, In his early professional career the sen ator had occasion to prepare himself for an argument in court. The issues were som what unusual. The young lawyer searched his authorities, and was so painstaking that he committed what he intended to say to paper. Before the day of trial : settlement was made. The speech was tucked away in a pigeonhole of the law office in Washington Ark, and forgotten Years afterward a similar suit was insti-tuted, and Mr. Jones found it necessary to prepare himself along the lines of the former effort. He did so and made his slaughter on similar provocation the exo- The hilt was set in diamonds. General speech. Afterward he was congratulating

himself that he had not had an opportuni deliver the first speech, because he felt that with his added experience he had made a much more effective argument, and had done himself far more credit. Strangely enough, a search for some papers abou that time brought to light the speech prepared years before and put away undeliv What was the amazement of Mr ered Jones to discover that the speech he had just delivered as the result of his recent preparation, and which he had flattered himself was a great improvement on his early attempt, was almost verbatim the speech that he had written and, as he sup osed, entirely forgotten:

What Is "Spiked Flour!"

From the Chicago Chronicle. An article of food has recently appeared on the market which is described as "spiked flour." Dealers in family supplies do not know what they ought to do about

"Spiked flour" is wheat flour adulterated by a mixture of pulverized corn starch, Only a little of the corn product was at first used in preparing the suphisticated flour. But as the fraud passed for a long time without detection a greater proportion of corn was mixed with the wheat in the grinding and bolting processes untithe presence of the cheaper grain in the composition can be distinguished even by an obtuse taste without difficulty. In making "spiked flour,"

grains of corn are not used. The corn is ground over twice. After the first grinding the meal is bolted. The fine siftings are reground and the meal is again bolted. The finest product of the second grist, sifted in a closer web, is put into the clear wheat flour to increase the quantity without deteriorating its quality. The coarse meal is then sold as ordinary commeat.

It is not claimed that this mixture is in any way huriful. Perhaps the innocent alloy of corn may render the flour more digestible, especially for delicate stomach But that fact does not justify a fraud in the manufacture of food products. Selling "spiked flour" for the genuine article is like selling filled cheese for honest cheese and oleomargarine for real butter,

The objection to the mixed flour as to the taste of bread is said to be that the cornmeal in the composition does not cook as easily as the wheat part of the composition. In order to bake bread if well cooked the corn is underdone. If the corn is well cooked the wheat

Whether this adulteration is on the local market or not has not transpired. Householders will do well to be en the lookout for it and to report to the board of health if they find some on hand. It should be known also that the residue of cornmeal, after losing the finer siftings, is of greatly inferior quality. The fraud works both ways.

Blocking the Way.

From the Boston Herald. If the faddists and theorists of the bank ng and currency committee could get a glimmer of common sense, they would lay aside their various projects for a subversive revision of our currency system and promptly report a short and simple bill to carry out President McKinley's rec emmendation that United States notes when redeemed in gold shall be set apart and only paid out in exchange for gold. As outlined by the president, the provison is not to go into operation until "the receipts of the government are quite suficient to pay all the expenses of the government," but in the present condition o he treasury, with an available cash balance of \$227,000,000, we cannot see that there would be any risk of embarrassment in putting it into effect at once. The sconer the better, to our thinking.

The president's recommendation with regard to the redeemed notes has been received with marked approval by the pubitc. In the sound money press, so far as our observation goes, not a voice has been raised against it, and business men are practically unanimous in its favor. We are no way surprised at this, for the proposal is not open to objection from any reasonable point of view. There is no in flation in it. There is no contraction in it. Unlike other schemes in connection with the currency, it affords no opening for private gain at the expense of the government. In short, it is entirely admirable and its launch in the house should be with all possible speed, so that it can have full advantage of the tide of business opinion now running so strong in its favor.

But, unfortunately, the currency tinkers of the banking and currency commit-tee have obtained control of the matter, and, instead of rising to the level of th financial and parliamentary opportunity, they have laid aside the president's simple plan for the improvement of the currency and plunged headlong into a bewilderng maze of projects for a general revision of our banking system. It is a world's pity. If Speaker Reed could exert any pressure to bring them to their senses on this question, his interference would be very grateful to the business community.

The Real Klondike. From the Cleveland Leader.

A correspondent of the New York Herald, writing from Dawson City, in the Yukon country, points out the inevitable disappointment that is in store for hundreds if not thousands of gold-seekers who have already arrived in the field or expect to reach there early next spring

This correspondent says there are now at the various mining camps many more per sons than can ever hope to secure paying claims unless they go many miles into the country away from the explored districts. The whole length of nearly every creek within a distance of forty miles from the Yukon, has already been taken up by prosnectors. The claims located number about 1,800, and they are practically all there are These claims belong to about 1,000 men. Yet there are at Dawson City and other camps at present about 4.500 gold-bunters, and at ast 1,000 more on the trails, with thousands more ready to start for the fields in

the spring.
If this information is to be depended pon, it appears to be certain that thousands who expect to locate claims next spring will be sadly disappointed. Already the mine owners are beginning to object to the high wages for labor. While laborers in the mines have been demanding and getting \$1.50 an hour for work, the Herald's correspondent says the mine owners have combined to cut the rate to H an hour, claiming that at the higher rate of wages it is impossible to work dirt that does not yield more than \$5 a culic yard

Much of the glamour has been taken off the first stories from the Yukon country, and it is probable that when the corspondents who are wintering there be gin to tell of their experiences next spring many of the would-be gold hunters will be glad to turn back.

"A Song of Absence." De Waxinater he come 'long

Ez sweet ez heneycomb; He knock en knock, en try de lock, But de nigger ain't at home! Ob, de nigger ain't at home,

He say: "I heah: Is you in dere?" But de nigger ain't at home! He say; "I wish you lif' dat latch, Fer I got right fur ter roam. En I wish you'd come up ter de scratch!"

But de nigger ain't at home! Oh, de nigger ain't at home. De nigger ain't at home; He say: "I heah: Is you in dere?" But de nigger ain't at home!

De nigger ain't at home;

-Atlanta Constitution. Just a Weigh He Has.

From the Chicago News. Purchaser-"Did your boss weigh that ad of coal on ambuscade scales? Driver-"What's ambuscade scales"

Purchaser-"Those that lie in weight."

THE BOW.

What of the bow? The bow was made in England; of true wood, of yew wood, The wood of English bows;

So men who are free Love the old yew tree, And the land where the yew tree grows. What of the cord? The cord was made in England:

A rough cord, a tough cord, A cord that bowmen love; So we'll drain our jacks

To the English flax, And the land where the hemp was wove. What of the shaft?

The shaft was cut in England: A long shaft, a strong shaft, Barbed and trim and true; So we'll drink altogether, To the gray goose feather,

What of the men? The men were bred in England: The bowmen-the yeomen-The lads of dale and fell.

And the land where the gray goese flew.

Here's to you-and to you! To the hearts that are true. And the land where the true hearts dwell,

-Conan Doyle.

MY CHILD. One night, as old St. Peter slept, He left the door of Heaven ajur. When through a little angel crept,

And came down with a falling star. One summer, as the blessed beams Of morn appreached, my blushing bride Awakened from some pleasing dreams And found that angel by her side,

God grant but thus, I ask no more; That when he leaves this world of sin He'll wing his way to that blest shore And find that door of Henven again

-David Barker.

THE SEEMING WORLD.

If Nature be a phantasm, as thou say'st, A splendid fiction and prodigious dream, To reach the real and true I'll make no

More than content with worlds that only -William Watso

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

A boy who presented himself for admission to one of the school ships at which sailors are trained for the navy was asked the usual questions at the examinations:

"Where were you born?" "In Modern Times," was the reply. "The question is not when, but where you were born." "Aboard the brig Modern Times, of Port-

land, Me., bound for Havre with a cargo of phosphates." "How old are you?" "Sixteen last March." "Who is the ruler of England?"

"Queen Victoria." "Who is the ruler of the United States?" "President McKinley "How do queens and presidents acquire power?"

"Queens are born so, and presidents git there because they're smart. A portable church was shipped to Jamaica on the British steamship Barnstable a few days ago. It was built of wood, put together in Philadelphia to make sure that the parts were right, then taken down and stowed in sections in the hold of the Barnstable. This vessel, a fast fruit carrier, trades between Philadelphia and the West Indies. Down in Jamaica churches are few in the interior of the island, where the fruit grows, and the Americans, who do the createst part of the export fruit trade, decided to build a church which could be moved about as they deem proper to the places where the most good could be done An American mechanic designed the edifice, and with it goes a bell-to summon the worshipers. Books and a complete outfit of furniture accompanied the

head of the Hebrew community in London. He once received a Christian visitor on some ticklish question of business, and the talk between the two at last became heated, his lordship losing his habitual calm and flaring up pretty flercely. "Well, my lord," said his visitor, reining in with a desire to throw oil on the troubled waters, "I hope you are not going to eat me."
"My religion forbids me." returned his lordship with quiet scorn-which was as

near a way of calling a man a pig as could

well be. Assistant Secretary Howell, who has charge of revenue matters, has been studying the possibilities of the Dingley law, and he has perfect confidence in its revenue producing qualities. Mr. Howell taken 1892 as a fairly good year for bustness, and with the same importations for the four months of August, September, Octcher and November in that year, the Dingley law would have added \$65,000,000 to the revenue received under its administration. This would not only have wired out the deficit, but would have created a surplus of \$22,000,000.

The past year was one of great financial depression, and yet the statistics show that the total contributions of Congregational churches last year for home expenses and benevolent purposes were 29,-000,584, which was \$14.63 per member. The total contributions of the Presbyterian church were \$13,298,151, almost \$13 per member. In addition to that church people were not behind in contributing to all other benevolences. It is well to note such facts. As a rule the church people are not the rich people.

The Whittier homestead has been purchased and given by James Carleton to trustees, who will hold it forever as a place of plous pilgrimage. The trustees are engaged in raising a fund of \$10,000 to keep grounds in order, as nearly as possible as they were when Mr. Whittier occupied them. They solicit \$5 life membership fees, to be paid to Mrs. Julia A. Hodgdon, Newburyport. Mass., and the hope will be general that the fund will speedily be raised.

A correspondent of a New York paper has expressed deep shame because he saw men in General Grant's tomb recently who wore their hats. "Such a thing," he declares, "would not be tolerated in any other Christian country in the world." General Grant were alive, he would tel folks to keep their hats on in such a cold. damp place, especially at this time of the year. It's no disrespect to Grant to keep your hat on.

He was a clergyman, fudging from his frock, and he approached the young woman in the liquor department rather timidly. "I want -er," he said, hesitatingly, "-er pint of really very fine whisky for an in valid." "Yes, sir," said the saleswoman.
"And—er-would you please give it to me in a flat bottle, and wrap up the parcel so that it will look like a book?"

The last of the late Mr. Hyman Montagu's coins have just been sold in London, the whole collection bringing in over \$250, 600, considerably more than was paid for the coins by Mr. Montagu, although he began to collect only ten years ago. The ales were spread over two years, and it took the auctioneers fifty-two working days to dispose of the coins.

A new occupation for women is that known as "music tencher's assistant," This is a young woman who superintends the daily plane practice of the children of a family. Where expensive music masters are employed their work is frequently much retarded by the careless practicing of their pupils.

The secret of the much-talked-about paper petitional is out. While the material with which it is to be built is not like anything in the world which ever has been used before for the purpose, it can hardly be called paper. The fabric is made of banana fiber.